

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1590
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2008
CHALK MINING IN GUJARAT
Mistry Shri Madhusudan Devram;Pathak Shri Harin

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether chalk mineral is available only in Gujarat State;
- (b) if so, whether marginal labourers/farmers are engaged in the Chalk mining activities;
- (c) if so, whether the Government of Gujarat has requested the Union Government to consider Chalk as a Minor Mineral instead of Major Mineral;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has re-considered the request of Gujarat State; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY)

- (a)&(b) Production of mineral chalk is reported only from Gujarat. State Government has reported involvement of farmers in Chalk mining activities.
- (c) to (e) State Government of Gujarat had sent a proposal for declaring Chalk as a minor mineral. After examining the proposal, the Central Government has decided that in the interest of scientific and systematic development, mineral chalk, should continue to be classified as a major mineral.